

carried off as plunder on one of the times when the Edomite tribesmen had made an expedition down into Mesopotamia proper and one of those which they found there was the pillar containing the laws of Hammurabi, which up until last year were considered to be the earliest code, the earliest law code. Before that time there were many scholars who had been saying, "Moses could not possibly have written the pentateuch. As early as from 1400 to 1200 B. C. how could you have as extensive a set of laws as the laws of Moses? They must be hundreds of years later. That's much too early for anything as involved and complex as those laws," and here there was found from a period some centuries earlier than Moses a law far more involved and complex than the laws of Moses. Certainly abundant proof that it is absurd to say that it is too early in the life of civilization for such a law code as the law code of Moses to have been given. The matter of the exact relation between the laws of Hammurabi and the laws of Moses is a very interesting question but that is one which we take up next semester when we are dealing with the earlier portion of the Biblical history. Now we won't have time to look at many of the excavations. I just should mention a few of the outstanding ones in addition to those I have already mentioned, the excavations at Ur, Ur of the Chaldees. They were carried on from, beginning at 1922, that is during the war--four years before that there was brief amount of excavation, but then beginning in 1922 extensive excavations were carried on at Ur by the British Museum and the University Museum of Pennsylvania and they carried on these excavations there for a number of years and they found most remarkable and unexpected things, and they found the proof that Ur of the Chaldees was a city in existence as early as the time of Abraham. Many had said, "The Bible tradition of Abraham's coming from Ur of the Chaldees is a late tradition. Abraham actually came from Haran in northern Mesopotamia. There is nothing to the idea that he was ever in Ur of the Chaldees." I've heard that statement made in the University of Pennsylvania within the last ten years, ~~but~~ that is just an erroneous tradition in the Bible. They base that partly on the fact that in the Septuagint it just says Ur. It doesn't say Ur of the Chaldees, which after all is not much of an error, but here